

V. MAYAKOVSKY

WHAT IS
GOOD
AND
WHAT IS
BAD

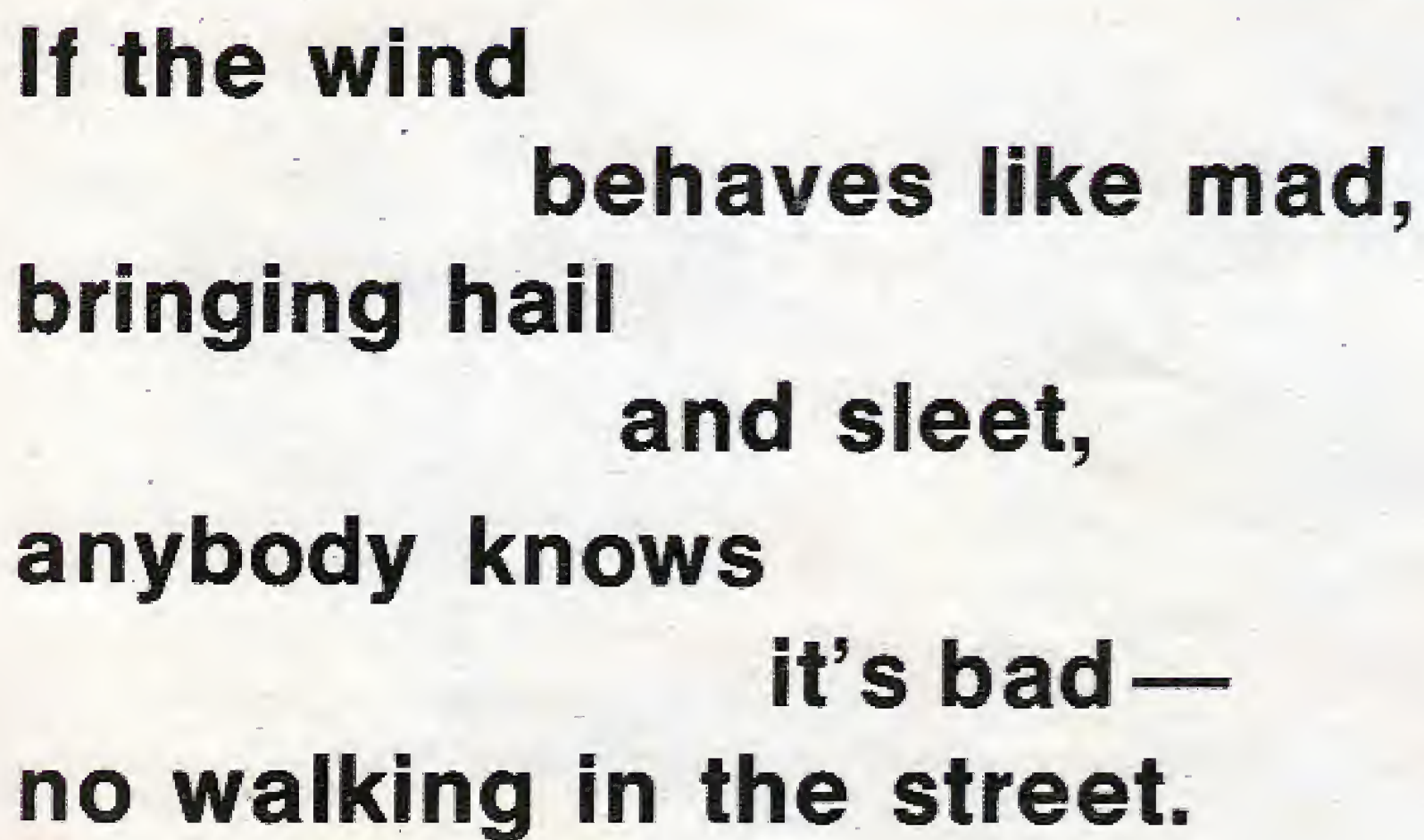




One fine day
a tiny laddie
came
and asked his dad:
“Could you tell me,
Daddy,
what is *good*
and what is *bad*?”
All his daddy said
I heard.
Children,
gather near.
Daddy’s answer,
word for word,
I shall tell you
here.







**If the wind
behaves like mad,
bringing hail
and sleet,
anybody knows
it's bad —
no walking in the street.**



After rainfall

**comes the sun,
driving off the cold.**

That is good

**for everyone,
whether young
or old.**



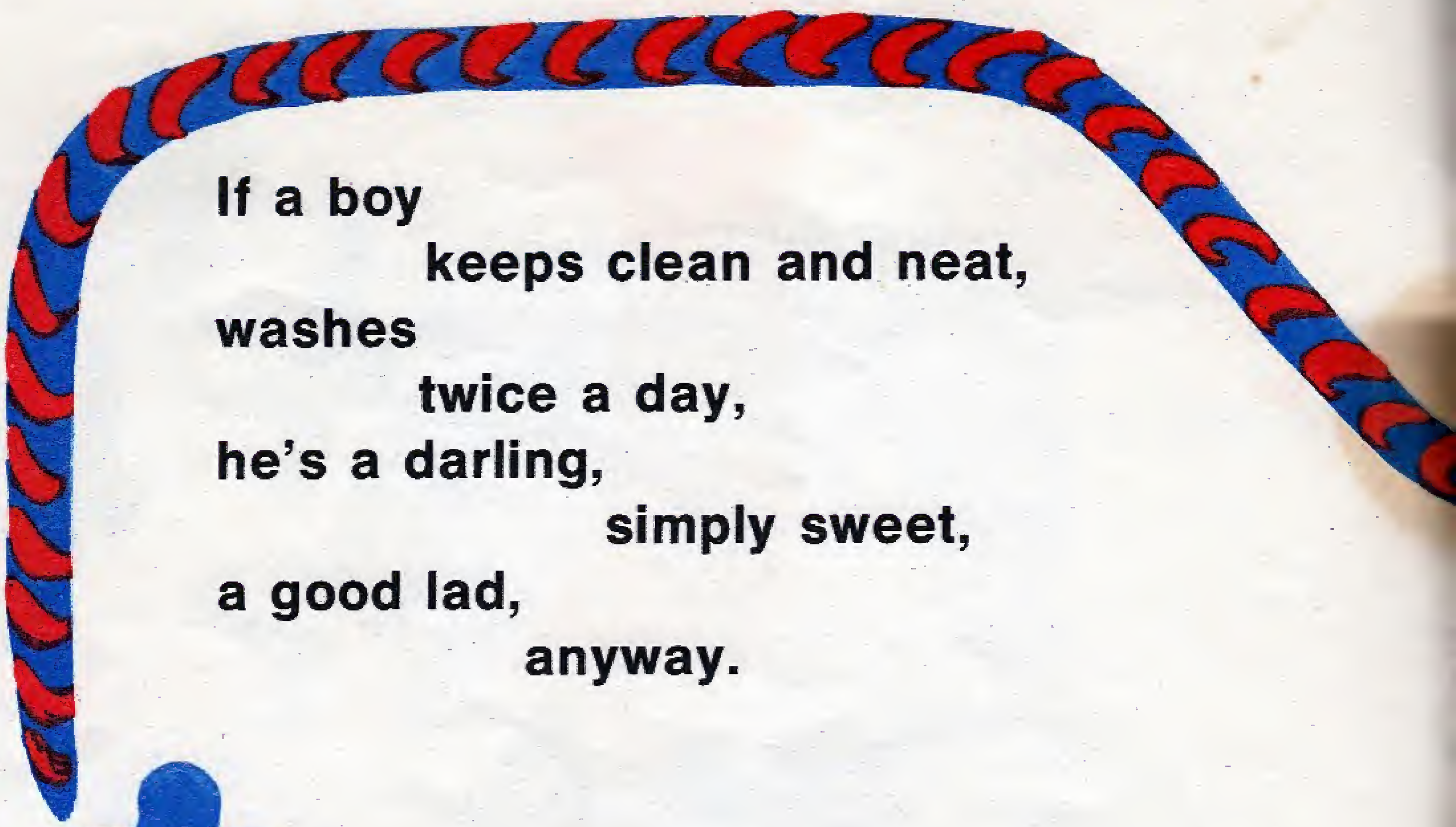
When

**a tiny little lad has
dirty cheeks**

**and chin,
this is clearly**

**very bad
for the youngster's skin.**

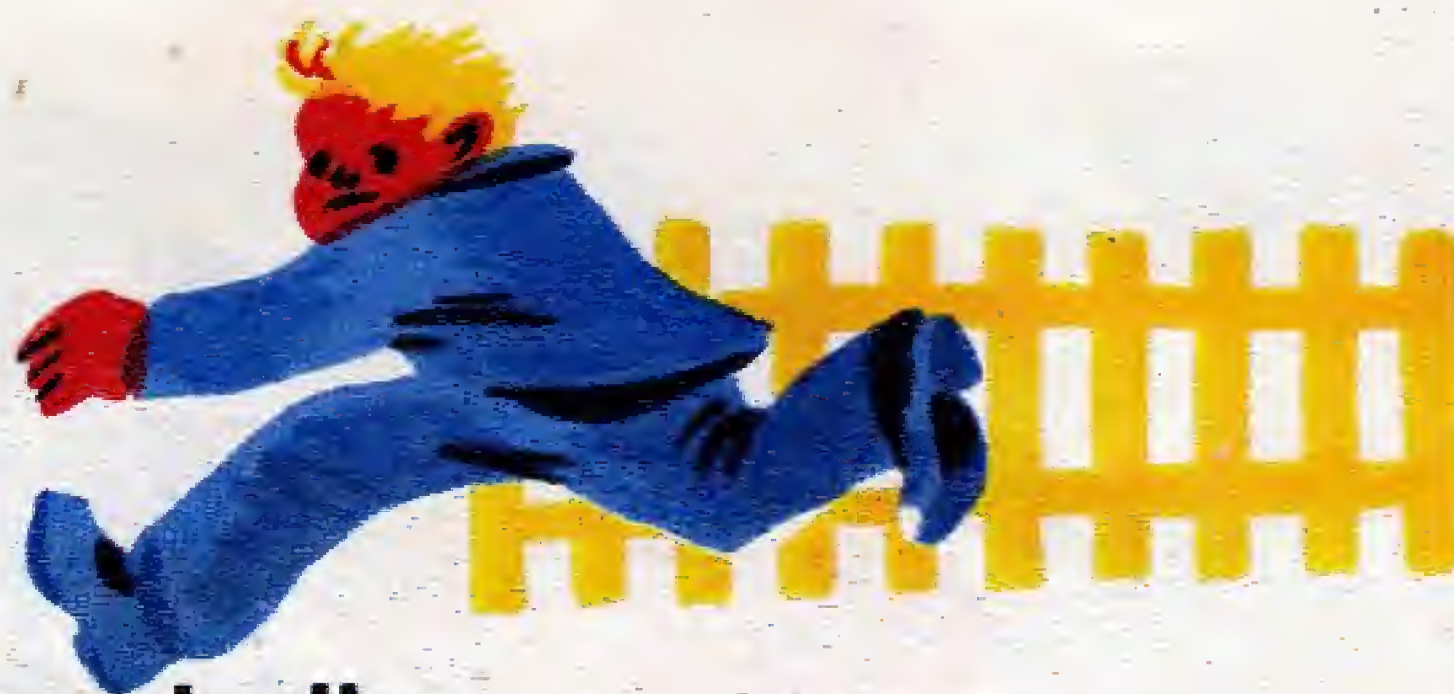




If a boy
keeps clean and neat,
washes
twice a day,
he's a darling,
simply sweet,
a good lad,
anyway.







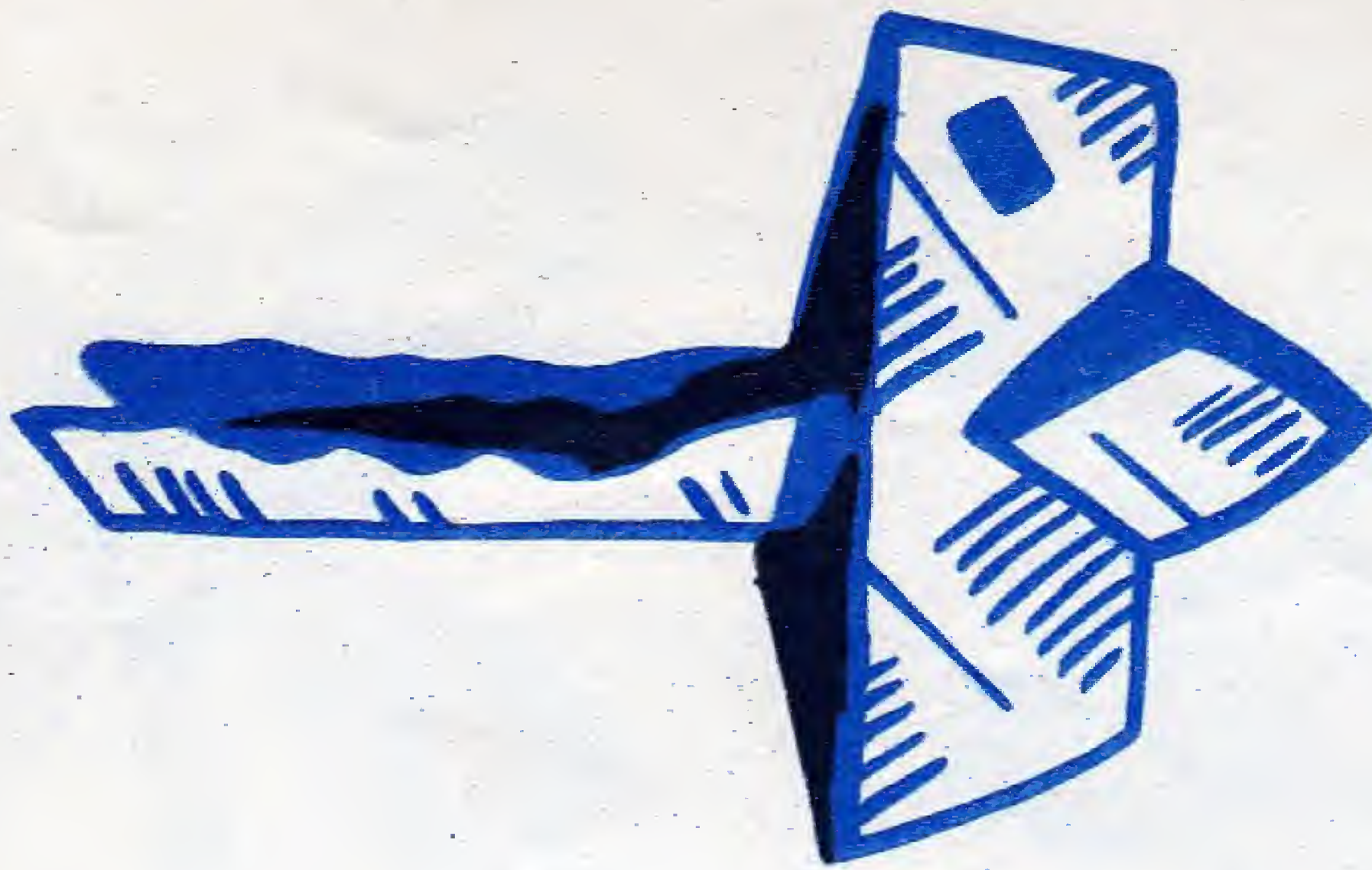
When a bully,
Tom or Billy,
thrashes
weaker mates,
his behaviour's bad and silly—
which everybody
hates.

This one shouts:
“You mustn't touch
smaller boys
than you!”
I admire him
very much,
and so,
I'm sure,
do you.









**If you spoil
a book and toy
in
a single day,
“That’s a baddish little boy!”
everyone will say.**





**This one loves
to work and read,
likes drawing
in his pad.
He's a good one,
yes, indeed,
the proper kind
of lad!**





**This baby's scared
to see a crow.**

**Shame
upon the lad!
Cowardice,
you ought to know,
is very,
very bad.**





**This one
shoos the bird away
from a hen and chicks.
Good!**

**A brave boy,
we can say,
though he's hardly six.**





**This one
 wallows in the dirt,
giggling with joy,
soils his trousers
 and his shirt,
bad,
 untidy boy!**



**This one
 cleans his shoes himself,
though
 just four years old,
puts his things
 upon a shelf.
He's
 as good as gold!**

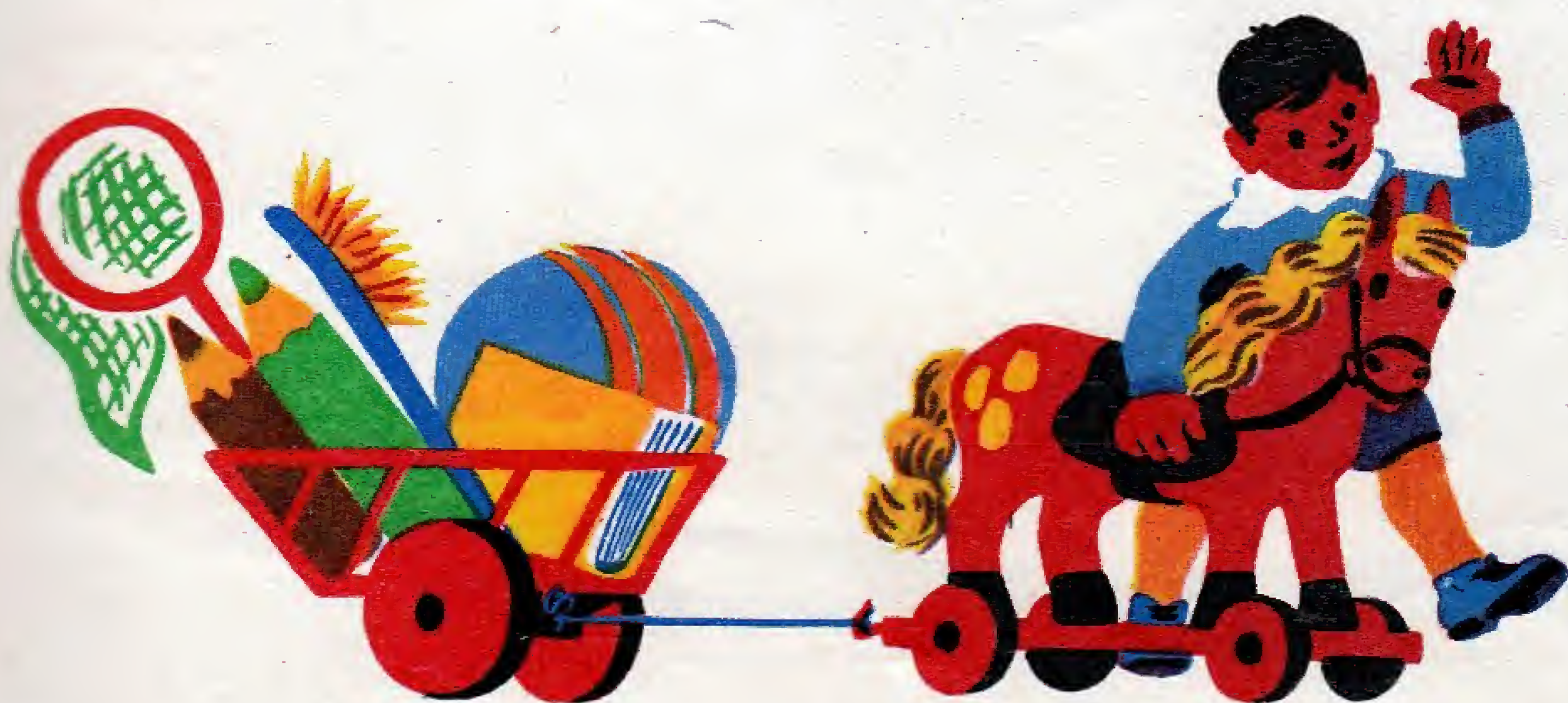






Remember, all who aren't yet big:
if you're now
a piggy,
you'll become
a downright pig
when you grow up
bigger.

Sonny beamed—
he'd understood
and he told his dad:
“Dad,
I'll always
do what's *good*
and never do
what's *bad!*”



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